



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: December 16, 2003
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair, Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to: Honorable Barbara Johnson, Chair, Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Mn/DOT Cooperative Agreement (regarding frontage road along TH55 in Heritage Park)**

Recommendation:

1. Authorize the City Engineer to apply for a \$234,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation Cooperative Agreement Program, to close the south frontage road adjacent to Olson Memorial Highway between approximately 450 feet west of Girard Terrace and Bryant Avenue North.
2. Confirm that the City will complete the project upon receiving the grant.
3. Authorize the appropriate City officials to execute and enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for use of the grant funds, if awarded.
4. Authorize the proper City staff to increase the appropriation for Heritage Park infrastructure work (4100 970 9719) and increase the Heritage Park revenue (4100 970 9719 Source 3215) by the amount of the grant, if awarded.

Previous Directives:

- On March 24, 2000 the City Council approved the Master Plan for Heritage Park, which includes the elimination of frontage roads as part of the reconfiguration of Olson Memorial Highway (TH55).
- On October 10, 2003 the City Council authorized the City Engineer to proceed with Heritage Park Phase 3 public improvements.
- On December 15, 2003 the City Council authorized the initiation of condemnation proceedings, should negotiations not be amenable, for acquiring two small portions of land for street purposes, at Bryant Avenue NORTH and Girard Terrace, southerly of the intersections with Olson Memorial Highway. The appraisal report for the above said property illustrated the frontage road removed.

Prepared: Robert J. Carlson, Senior Professional Engineer, 673-3614
Approved by:

Presenters in Committee: Klara A. Fabry, P.E. City Engineer, Director of Public Works
Robert J Carlson, Senior Professional Engineer

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- ☐ No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- ☒ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget (if grant is awarded)
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☒ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase (if grant is awarded)
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):
- ☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information:

Part of the Master Plan for Heritage Park calls for the realignment of Bryant Avenue North and Girard Terrace at Olson Memorial Highway (TH55). During the process to obtain approval from Mn/DOT to realign the above said intersections with TH55, Mn/DOT personnel strongly suggested that the south frontage road between Bryant Avenue NORTH and 450 feet west of Girard Terrace be closed and removed as part of the City's Year 2004 Heritage Park street construction activities, for safety reasons. When Mn/DOT personnel presented the frontage road removal concept, the question of funding said removal came to the forefront, which led to the Mn/DOT personnel suggesting the City apply for funding from Mn/DOT's Cooperative Agreement Program. The grant application pertains only to the costs for the frontage road closure and the removal portion of the City's Year 2004 Heritage Park street construction activities. The balance of the funds for the Heritage Park work including the Bryant Avenue North and Girard Terrace intersection realignments has previously been appropriated as part of the Heritage Park Project.

The removal of the above said frontage road is consistent with the Master Plan for Heritage Park since the future reconfiguration of Olson Memorial Highway in the Heritage Park area will shift the eastbound lanes into the area currently used as the frontage road. Other former frontage road segments have already been eliminated as part of Heritage Park Phase I and Phase 3 rental housing site preparation, and closure of remaining segments must occur for the eventual reconfiguration of TH55.

Attached is a map illustrating the proposed realignments and frontage road pavement removal. Please note that existing Girard Terrace when reconstructed will be renamed Van White Memorial Boulevard. Once pavement is removed from the existing frontage road location, Mn/DOT proposes to install and maintain the area as grass, until said Olson Memorial Highway reconfiguration takes place.

Darrell Washington, Heritage Park Project Manager, has discussed the sequencing of this work with the Council Member of the 5th Ward (Council Member Johnson Lee) and is coordinating information to the appropriate property owners in the area.

Should the City be awarded the above said grant, work would begin on the frontage road removal after July 1, 2004 and be completed by fall 2004. Work is expected to be done with City Forces and the use of its annually awarded contracts.

Attachment: Map

Cc: Council Member Natalie Johnson Lee, 5th Ward
Darrell Washington, Heritage Park Project Manager
Lois Eberhart, Heritage Park Project Manager for Infrastructure & Open Space